

REMARKS

The claims have been reproduced showing amendments relative to the previously granted patent. Claims 18-22 and 26-33 are cancelled herein. After entry of this amendment, claims 1, 2, 5-13, 16, 23-25 and 24 are pending. It has also been noted that the Greek letters alpha, beta and gamma were sometimes represented as words rather than symbols as in the previously granted patent. This has been corrected. The correction conforms the claims to the granted patent in this respect and so is not shown as being an amendment. It has further been noted that the last phrase of claim 34 was not underlined in the previous amendment. This has also been corrected. Claim 12 has been amended to delete the requirement that the DNA segments encoding the three fibrinogen chains be linked to a promoter form a beta lactoglobulin gene in favor of the more generic recitation of an additional segment required for expression of the chain. Claim identifiers have also been provided for all claims as requested by the Examiner. Support for claim amendments has been identified in previous responses with the exception of the noted change to claim 12, which is supported by col. 4, lines 44-47 of the original patent. Applicants now turn to the Examiner's remarks.

Reissue declaration

The Examiner's remarks regarding a supplemental reissue declaration are acknowledged. Unfortunately, one of the named inventors, Donna Prunkard, who has left the employment of the company at which work described in the application was performed, has declined to sign the papers, stating that she is not an inventor of the claims as now formulated. This statement is being reviewed, as is the possibility of proceeding under 1.47(a). Until such review is complete, and a 1.47(a) submission, if deemed appropriate, has been prepared, applicants request this matter be held in abeyance.

Claims 18-22, 26-33 stand rejected as corresponding to the lost count in the interference and based on estoppel. The Examiner notes that the "single vector limitation" is not present in claim 18. With respect to claims 21, 22, 26-33, the Examiner says that the single

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vector limitation is a process limitation that does not further limit the products of these claims.

Claims 18-22 and 26-33 have been cancelled without prejudice.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


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